Draft Meeting Minutes
Frederick County Sustainability Commission
Wednesday October 20, 2010
3:00 pm
Third Floor Meeting Room, Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, MD

Present: Don Briggs, Rich Maranto, Winifred Palmer, Fred Ugast, Mark Lancaster, Margie Lance Will Morrow, Annmarie Creamer. Staff: Hilari Varnadore. Also Shannon Moore, Lisa Orr, Kelly Goetz, Janet Davis

Excused Absences – Steve Chafitz, Lisa Gaver, Kim Roberts, Janice Wiles, Catherine McKalip-Thompson.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chairman Don Briggs called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Administrative Items

Review and approval of September minutes. Fred made the motion to approve the minutes, Margie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Commission Member Comments

Rick and Mark commented that the Solar Tour was a great success. Annmarie said they have a new website up and running (www.learnmorerecyclebetter.org). Fred informed the Commission he was in Los Angeles last week for an international solar expo and noted Germany has greatly reduced the cost of solar energy for their citizens.

4. Briefing on MD's Sustainable Communities Tax Credit

Janet Davis, Historic Preservation Planner, briefed the Commission on this state-supported program. She stated that historic preservation has always been sustainable. Janet also noted the Maryland Assoc. of Historic District Commissioners, with the support of the Maryland Historic Trust, has commissioned a study of the economic and fiscal benefits of heritage resource conservation in selected local historic districts in the State of Maryland. She will keep the Commission appraised as things develop.

5. Update on Chesapeake Bay TDMDL and State Watershed Implementation Plans

Shannon Moore, Watershed Management Section Manager, provided the Commission with an update on the Bay TMDL and WIP process. The different phases were discussed and the affects thereof. Legislature has been approved and will soon be implemented. The Chesapeake Bay does not meet water quality standards. It was strongly stated pollution has to be reduced or the Bay will die. With regards to cleaning up the Bay, there are always challenging political issues that need to be considered.

6. Sustainability Commission Work Plan

Hilari gave a status report on updates to the Plan. She noted the numerous outreach events staff has attended including the fair and In the Streets. Annmarie noted the next steps are to detail the priorities and pull them together. It was questioned if the Commission wanted to send to the BOCC the updates. By consensus, the commission moved to send the current Board a memo updating them on progress made to date.

7. Sustainability Snapshot

Hilari stated she has worked on two recent national sustainability surveys and is working with several organizations on development of the field and practice of the sustainability director. She noted she attended a conference in Boston recently with the Urban Sustainability Directors Network and presented the Sustainable Action Plan for County Operations at the ICLEI Local Government Summit in DC in late September.

8. Public Comments: Steve Cassis spoke about composting and discussed the possibility of a text amendment.

9. Adjourn

Margie made a motion to adjourn, Will seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Minutes submitted by Fayne Lebherz